

SamTrans 50th Anniversary Music Contest Official Rules

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING.

1. Contest Overview

The SamTrans 50th Anniversary Music Contest (“Contest”) is a skill-based contest in which eligible participants submit an original song and Sponsor selects eight (8) winning entries based on the judging criteria described below. By submitting an entry, you agree to be bound by these Official Rules and Sponsor’s decisions, which are final and binding in all matters relating to the Contest.

2. Sponsor

The SamTrans 50th Anniversary Music Contest (“Contest”) is sponsored by San Mateo County Transit District (“SamTrans” or “Sponsor”), 1250 San Carols Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070. For questions regarding the Contest, contact huckabyt@samtrans.com.

3. Eligibility

The Contest is open to legal residents of California. There is no minimum age to enter; however, the following rules apply to minors:

Minors (Ages 13–17): Individuals ages 13 through 17 may create and submit their own entry, but a parent or legal guardian must review and agree to these Official Rules on the minor’s behalf. Sponsor may require the parent or legal guardian to confirm consent at the time of submission and/or during winner verification, electronically or otherwise in writing.

Children (Under 13): Individuals under 13 may create a song, but a parent or legal guardian must submit the entry on the child’s behalf and provide the parental consents described in Section 19. If Sponsor determines an entry was submitted by or on behalf of a child under 13 without the required parent/guardian submission and consent, Sponsor may disqualify the entry and delete associated personal information.

Employees and contractors of SamTrans, and their immediate family members and household members, are eligible to enter; however, Sponsor will administer judging procedures intended to avoid conflicts of interest (e.g., recusal of a judge from evaluating an entry submitted by a close family member).

Void where prohibited by law.

4. Contest Period

The Contest begins at 12:00 a.m. Pacific Time on Friday, April 17 2026, and ends at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time on June 16, 2026. (“Contest Period”). All entries must be received by the end of the Contest Period to be eligible. Sponsor expects to announce winning entries on or about June 24, 2026.

5. How to Enter

To enter, submit an original song via the **SamTrans Website** upload link available at www.samtrans.com/contest during the Contest Period. Each entry must include the following information for the entrant (and each collaborator, if applicable): name, email address, phone number, physical mailing address, and age confirmation (under 13 / 13–17 / 18+) to determine whether parental consent is required. If the entrant is under 18, the parent or legal guardian's name and contact information must also be provided.

There is no entry fee. No purchase is necessary. Limit one entry per individual or collaborative group.

6. Submission Requirements

All entries must comply with the following requirements:

Each submission must be an original musical composition created by the entrant. The song must be in audio format only (no video), in a file format accepted by the submission portal (e.g., MP3, WAV, M4A). The song must be no longer than five (5) minutes in duration. The song must meaningfully evoke transportation in San Mateo County and/or SamTrans services, with the SamTrans 50th Anniversary theme in mind. Entries that reference the theme only superficially may score lower under the judging criteria. Entries may not contain obscene, offensive, defamatory, or otherwise objectionable content as determined by Sponsor in its sole discretion.

If the submission incorporates samples, loops, or any third-party content, the entrant must provide written proof of permission from the applicable copyright holder(s) allowing use as permitted under these Official Rules at the time of submission and/or during winner verification. Failure to provide such proof will result in disqualification of the entry.

Collaborative entries are permitted. If a submission is created by multiple individuals (co-writers, producers, performers, or other collaborators), each collaborator must separately agree to these Official Rules, including the license grant and publicity release set forth herein. The submitting entrant is responsible for ensuring all collaborators have agreed to these terms prior to submission. For any entry with collaborators who are minors, the submitting entrant represents and warrants that they have obtained the required consent from each minor collaborator's parent or legal guardian. Sponsor may require any collaborators, and where applicable, any minor collaborator's parent or legal guardian, to confirm such consents and agreement to these Official Rules at the time of submission and/or during winner verification, electronically or otherwise in writing.

7. Judging

All eligible entries will be judged by a panel of SamTrans staff members. Judging will be conducted in a single round. Entries will be evaluated based on the following criteria: alignment with the SamTrans 50th Anniversary theme; production quality; originality; and emotional impact. The decisions of the judges are final and binding in all respects.

Eight (8) finalists will be selected based on the judging criteria. All finalists will be deemed winners and will receive the prize described below.

8. Prizes

Each of the eight (8) finalists will receive: five hundred dollars (\$500 USD) and one (1) commemorative pressed vinyl record featuring the winning songs (subject to production constraints). Approximate retail value of each prize package: \$525 (estimated). Total approximate retail value of all prizes: \$4,200.

Prizes are non-transferable and may not be substituted or redeemed for cash, except at Sponsor's sole discretion. Sponsor reserves the right to substitute a prize of equal or greater value if the advertised prize becomes unavailable. All federal, state, and local taxes on prizes are the sole responsibility of the winners. If applicable, winners with prizes valued at \$600 or more may receive an IRS Form 1099 and are responsible for reporting prize income.

9. Winner Notification and Prize Fulfillment

Finalists will be notified via e-mail using the contact information provided at entry. Winners will also be announced via SamTrans social media channels.

Each winner must respond to the notification within fourteen (14) days of the date of notification. Failure to respond within this period will result in forfeiture of the prize; however, SamTrans will retain all rights granted under these Official Rules with respect to the forfeiting entrant's submission. No alternate winners will be selected.

Sponsor may require winners (and/or their parent or legal guardian, for minors) to complete and return forms reasonably necessary to administer the Contest, such as a W-9 tax form, eligibility affidavit, publicity release, and/or confirmation of consents and rights clearances (including sample permissions). Failure to complete any such verifications or forms may result in forfeiture of the prize. For minor winners, a parent or legal guardian may be required to complete tax documentation and accept the cash prize on the minor's behalf. Prizes will be mailed or otherwise delivered to the address provided by the winner.

10. License Grant

By submitting an entry, each entrant (and each collaborator, if applicable) grants to SamTrans a perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free, non-exclusive license to use, reproduce, distribute, publicly perform, publicly display, modify, create derivative works from, and otherwise exploit the submitted song—including both the musical composition and sound recording embodied in the entry—in any medium now known or hereafter developed, including but not limited to advertising, commercials, promotional materials, social media, websites, and public events. Permitted derivative works include, for example, shortened edits for advertisements, additions of voiceover, and synchronization with video. This license applies to all submitted songs, not only finalist or winning entries.

SamTrans shall have no obligation to provide credit or attribution to entrants when using submissions, though SamTrans may do so at its discretion.

SamTrans shall not sell the submitted songs as stand-alone music products (e.g., selling tracks, albums, or vinyl to the public as a primary commercial use). SamTrans may, however, use the entries in paid advertising and other promotional materials.

The license granted in this section survives the end of the Contest and is not conditioned on prize acceptance or winner response. If the entrant (or any collaborator) is a minor, the minor's parent or legal guardian grants the above license on the minor's behalf to the extent permitted by law.

11. Representations and Warranties

By submitting an entry, each entrant represents and warrants that: the submission is original and was created by the entrant (and collaborators, if any); the entrant owns or has secured all necessary rights in the submission, including rights from any collaborators, performers, or third-party content owners; the submission does not infringe any copyright, trademark, right of publicity, right of privacy, or other intellectual property or proprietary right of any person or entity; if samples or third-party content are included, the entrant has obtained written permission from the applicable rights holders; the entrant has the full right and authority to grant the licenses set forth in these Official Rules; and if the entrant is a minor, a parent or legal guardian has consented to these Official Rules on the entrant's behalf.

12. Publicity Release

By submitting an entry, each entrant (and each collaborator, and the parent or legal guardian of any minor entrant) grants SamTrans the right to use their name, likeness, photograph, biographical information, and submission for promotional, advertising, and publicity purposes in any medium, worldwide, in perpetuity, without additional compensation, except where prohibited by law.

13. Release and Indemnification

By participating, each entrant (and, if applicable, the entrant's parent or legal guardian) releases SamTrans and its officers, directors, employees, agents, and representatives from any claims arising out of participation in the Contest or acceptance or use of any prize, except where prohibited by law.

Each entrant further agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless SamTrans, its officers, directors, employees, agents, and contractors from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, costs, and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising out of or related to: the entrant's submission; any breach of these Official Rules; or any claim that the submission infringes or violates the rights of any third party.

14. Limitation of Liability

To the fullest extent permitted by law, SamTrans shall not be liable for: any injury, loss, or damage of any kind arising from participation in the Contest or acceptance, possession, or use of any prize; any technical failures, errors, or malfunctions affecting the Contest; or any entries that are lost, late, stolen, illegible, incomplete, or misdirected. SamTrans's total liability under these Official Rules shall not exceed the value of the prize at issue.

15. Disqualification

SamTrans reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any entrant who: violates these Official Rules; attempts to tamper with or undermine the legitimate operation of the Contest; acts in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner; or submits content that is obscene, offensive, defamatory, or otherwise objectionable.

16. Modification and Cancellation

SamTrans reserves the right to modify, suspend, or cancel the Contest at any time and for any reason, including but not limited to technical failures, fraud, or circumstances beyond Sponsor's reasonable control. In the event of cancellation, Sponsor may, at its discretion, select winners from among all eligible entries received prior to cancellation.

17. Governing Law and Disputes

These Official Rules and any disputes arising out of or relating to the Contest shall be governed by the laws of the State of California, without regard to conflicts of law principles. Any dispute will be resolved exclusively in the state or federal courts located in San Mateo County, California, and entrants consent to the personal jurisdiction of such courts.

18. Severability

If any provision of these Official Rules is held invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

19. Privacy and COPPA Compliance

SamTrans collects personal information from entrants solely for the purpose of administering the Contest, including verifying eligibility, contacting winners, and fulfilling prizes. The personal information collected includes: name, email address, phone number, physical mailing address, age confirmation, and (for minor entrants) parent or guardian name and contact information. SamTrans will request only the information reasonably necessary to administer the Contest.

SamTrans will not sell entrants' personal information. SamTrans may share personal information with service providers assisting with Contest administration, but only to the extent necessary to operate the Contest and fulfill prizes. Entrants' personal information will be retained only as long as necessary to administer the Contest, document any licenses granted pursuant to these Official Rules, and comply with legal obligations, after which it will be deleted.

Children Under 13 (COPPA): Because the Contest involves online submission and collection of personal information, SamTrans will take steps intended to comply with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act ("COPPA") with respect to children under 13, including: (a) a child's entry must be submitted by the child's parent or legal guardian; (b) the parent or legal guardian must provide consent for SamTrans's collection, use, and disclosure of the child's personal information in connection with the Contest and promotional uses described in these Rules; and (c) a parent or legal guardian may request to review, delete, or stop further collection or use of a child's personal information by contacting SamTrans at huckabyt@samtrans.com. SamTrans

may refuse to accept or may delete a child's entry and associated information if SamTrans does not receive the required parental submission and consent.

California residents have the right to request access to, correction of, or deletion of their personal information under the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA). To exercise these rights, contact huckabyt@samtrans.com.

By entering the Contest, each entrant consents to the collection and use of their personal information as described herein.

20. Official Rules Availability

These Official Rules will be posted at www.samtrans.com/contest for the duration of the Contest Period and for a reasonable period thereafter.

21. Winners List

For a list of winners, send a written request to HuckabyT@samtrans.com within sixty (60) days after the end of the Contest Period.

**Exhibit A:
Parent/Guardian Consent Form (for Minors)**

Parent/Guardian Consent and Release (SamTrans 50th Anniversary Music Contest)

I am the parent or legal guardian of _____ (“Minor”). I have reviewed and agree to the Official Rules. I consent to SamTrans’s collection and use of Minor’s information and Minor’s submission in accordance with the Official Rules, including the license grant and publicity release. I represent that I have authority to grant these permissions on Minor’s behalf.

I understand that:

- If Minor is under 13, I am submitting this entry on Minor’s behalf.
- If Minor is 13–17, Minor may submit the entry, but I must provide this consent.
- The license and publicity rights I am granting on Minor’s behalf will survive the Contest and are not conditioned on prize acceptance.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Date: _____